

Steve Brady,  
Headteacher,  
Dene Magna School,  
Abenhall Road  
Mitcheldean  
Gloucestershire  
GL17 0DU



Paul Holroyd | Headteacher

18<sup>th</sup> June 2018,

The Forest High School,  
Causeway Road,  
Cinderford,  
Gloucestershire  
GL14 2AZ

Dear Steve,

I write in support of your proposal to offer A 'Level teaching at GLOSCOL Cinderford Campus in 2019. I fully support these proposals for the following reasons:

T: 01594 822257

E: [info@foresthigh.org.uk](mailto:info@foresthigh.org.uk)

[www.foresthigh.org.uk](http://www.foresthigh.org.uk)

- Currently students cannot access A 'Level provision anywhere in the central Forest of Dean area. This means that to study A 'Level students need to travel to Herefordshire, Monmouthshire, Gloucester, Chepstow or Newent. Any of these places is at least 25 minutes from Cinderford. This is unfair on both the students and parents of Cinderford. In some cases it reduces the opportunity for some learners as we have a situation whereby students are choosing vocational courses over A'Level courses because it is more convenient to travel to a local provider (GLOSCOL). I have real concerns that students lack of choice has meant that they have chosen inappropriate post-16 qualifications.
- Due to the lack of access of A 'Level provision at schools in the central forest area, students are choosing schools that are of some distance away as they offer A 'Levels. This means that schools within the central forest are not always at capacity. This has placed a severe burden on central forest schools and I believe this could be partially addressed with the offer of A 'Level provision in Cinderford as students (and parents) would perceive that there is a natural progression for A'Level studies within Cinderford.
- Within the central forest area teacher recruitment and retention is very difficult and often cited as a reason for not taking up positions is the lack of post-16 teaching opportunities. I believe a provision run by a local school at GLOSCOL could create opportunities for teachers from all schools in the area. This would be a huge incentive to attract high quality teachers to the area.

I wish you every success with your proposal.

Paul Holroyd  
Headteacher